

Project Vetting Form

PROJECT NAME: Catalogue of Women's Groups

DATE BEFORE THE COMMISSION: March 24, 2014

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PROJECT PARTNERS: Women Waking the World, See Jane Do, Founding Mothers

TOTAL BUDGET ASK FROM COMMISSION: Approximately \$120,000 to \$150,000, although much of the cost may be recouped through sponsorship and membership fees on the back end.

STAFF TIME: Approximately 10 - 12 percent of the E.D.'s time, a full time cataloguing specialist, and a half time IT Specialist.

PROJECT SUMMARY: The primary goal of this project is to develop a "network of networks" comprehensive database of women's organizations in California. Currently there are many partial lists of women's groups – by county, city, issue area, and social network. However, there is no comprehensive list, let alone a professional catalogue of women's organizations for the State.

This coalition proposes working together to create a to develop a comprehensive of women's organizations in California. This database then could be used to mobilize women's groups, understand the various women's networks in California, and ultimately evolve democracy.

The committee proposes that there be multiple levels of access to the database. Basic access would include names of the organization, address, phone number and website. Anyone would have access to this information. The database would house additional information such as proprietor information, leadership and organizational structure information, and other publically available but previously uncatalogued information. Access to this information would be purchased either by an individual or an agency for a set fee. These fees would go to the Commission and into the Commission's special fund.

COMMISSION'S ROLE/PARTICIPATION: It is proposed that the Commission would serve as the base of this project. With the assistance of California Technology Agency and CEDAW, CSWG would provide the technical and financial services needed to get the project off the ground. In return, the fees gained by membership to the list would be used to support the Commission's on-going work. This project ultimately would be staffed by a professional librarian overseeing volunteers and interns. Using a crowd-sourcing model, the Commission would set up internships in cataloguing for master's in library science students across the country. Students would be given a list of women's organizations and a cataloguing sheet. They would then use publicly available information to fill out the sheet and enter it into the database. The cataloging librarian would oversee entries for completeness and professionalism before allowing them to go live on the web. Students will receive internship credits and letters of recommendation for their work.

This model is based on a similar model used by the California Technology Agency for cataloguing public maps and databases. They use interns and students with a single professional to oversee the product to make sure it is complete. They currently have over 10 interns and have significantly reduced the costs of cataloguing and data entry. The partners in this project would help by providing interns, raising funds,

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helping seed the database and serving as an oversight board. Additionally, they would help decide what other uses this database could be harnessed for outside the Commission's use.

POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE ISSUE(S): Currently, there is no comprehensive database or understanding of how women's organizations are networked. The Commissioners have spoken repeatedly about their desire to make the Commission a clearinghouse of information. This would take the Commission a long ways toward that goal. Additionally, having this type of data would give the Commission, and anyone else using it, much better insight into how women organize politically and how to tap into those political and social networks. Once completed, this could be an incredibly powerful tool.

This tool could become the base for connecting women to resources in their community, mobilizing women's groups throughout California, and leading calls to action.

COMMUNITY BUILD-UP/BACKING: Women Waking the World, Gather the Women, Nevada County Habitat for Humanity- Women's Build, See Jane Do, and Founding Mothers have already signed on to this project. They are approaching CEDAW and INTEL as potential partners in early January (after this proposal was written).

OTHER PLAYERS: CEDAW has their own desire to create a database. Negotiations are taking place to co-brand or co-market this product in order to bring them on board. They currently lack the financial and technical structures needed to fully implement the database whereas the Commission could ramp up quickly.

The California Technology Agency is mapping organizations without a specific focus on women. While their project slightly overlaps this one, they will not have a comprehensive database of women's organizations when their project is complete.

PARTNERS' BACKGROUND:

Women Waking the World (WWW) a group of writers, artists, authors, therapists, activists and visionaries whose global initiative and movement to restore women's wisdom, values and influence in the service of all life.

See Jan Do is an award-winning social change multimedia organization that empowers everyday women to be a hero in their own lives and provides tools to put Passion into Action. See Jan Do discovers the extraordinary in every women and provide a platform for women to be seen and heard. See Jane Do redefines media for women and the power of story to create positive change. Real Women. Real Solutions.

Founding Mothers is a new social enterprise in development, is designed as a framework for supporting and making visible the emerging New American Majority, whose mutual vision is a just, sustainable and peaceful society. Generations from now, we want our children to tell the story of how we turned from

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the love of power and money to the power of love...how we turned from control and domination of people and nature to partnership, cooperation and stewardship.